

SELF-LUBRICATED CONNECTOR

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A self-lubricating connector or roller is formed by molding a laminated bearing insert in-situ within a nylon support or member. The connector provides a one-piece, self-lubricating device to replace conventional multiple-piece bearing assemblies which typically include a nylon member having an integral metallic sleeve rotatably engaged with a conventional needle or journal bearing. An alternate embodiment of the present invention includes a connector fabricated by press-fitting the laminated bearing insert into a member fabricated from a metallic material. The connectors or rollers of the present invention have several advantages over the prior art, including improved concentricity between the load bearing layer and roller, closer tolerances and elimination of parts and assembly steps.